

## OPE Revising Ideas and Examples Version 2

1. Is the question at the top of the paper?
2. Is there a title and does it reflect the main idea of the paper?
3. Does the thesis statement specifically answer the question that expresses an **arguable** (open to disagreement; not obviously correct) idea OR does it give a vague answer that is not arguable?
4. Does the thesis include the title and author?
5. Does the paper **analyze** or **summarize**? Eliminate unnecessary summary! (While you're at it, eliminate unnecessary wordiness.)
6. Quotations: What evidence does each quotation (textual evidence) provide?  
Are they too long or too short? Do they actually support your thesis?

Quotation:

What does it prove?

Does the author identify the speaker, listener, and context of the quotation?

Do you explain the significance of this quotation immediately before or after the quotation in the essay?

YES or NO (fix it if "no")

7. Verb tenses: Have you used the present tense of verbs to describe both the author's work and the action in the work (for example, Chopin shows (not 'has shown') or Mrs. Mallard dies (not 'died'))? Look up 'literary present' if you are confused.
8. Conclusion: Does it end with the "So What" factor – explaining why your essay is important for understanding the text?
9. Each OPE must contain at least one Sentence Pattern sentence.
10. Put every word in your essay 'on trial.' Read each sentence slowly, asking yourself if there are any unnecessary words or confusing phrases. Cut out unnecessary words and fix confusing phrases.